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We repeat what we said a week ago this morning, that every day is a golden day which brings no final break in the negotiations at Portsmouth. Peace may be no nearer than it was last Sunday, but who can declare with authority that It is further away? Most people will despair only when they have learned that the promoter of the conference, representing a nation's honest friendship for both Russia and Japan and an individual purpose as high and honorable as ever inspired an energetic and resourceful man to action, has abandoned all hope of success in his momentous enterprise. That time has not come.

The Fifty Million Amendment. The State Constitution in Article VII. makes minute provision for the regulation of the State's power to contract indebtedness. Its second section provides that debts not to exceed \$1,000,000 may be incurred "to meet casual deficits or failures in revenues," Section 8 grants authority to contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war." The fourth section is in part as follows:

" Bacept the debts specified in Sections 3 and 5 tracted by or on behalf of this State, unless such debt shall be authorized by a law, for some single work or object to be distinctly specified therein; and such law shall impose and provide for the collection of a direct annual tax to pay, and sufficien to pay, the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt within eighteen years from the time of the contracting thereof. No such law shall take effect until it shall, at a general election, have been sub mitted to the people, and have received a mafority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election. . . No such law shall be submitted to be voted on within three months after its passage, or at any general election when any other law. shall be submitted to be voted for or against." The intent of the framers of the Con-

stitution, indorsed by the people when they adopted it, is set forth plainly in this section. It was deemed unwise to empower the Legislature alone to increase the State's indebtedness except in time of great emergency, and it was written in the fundamental law that no tatute authorizing the contracting of a debt should become effective until it had been indorsed at the polls by the roters. So important was this held to be that the provision was inserted that no law authorizing the contracting of a debt should be submitted to the people n a year when other measures were placed before them for their action. Thus, in 1903 the law (Chapter 147, Laws of 1903) authorizing the State to conwact a debt of \$101,000,000 for the "imrego Canal and the Champlain Canal" submitted to the people, and no her questions were put before them. he object of this was, plainly, that the oters' attention might be directed colely toward the one question of the object described, and not distracted by other and perhaps more technical questions involved in amendments to the Constitution. It is a wise provision and prohibition, with the principle of which no

It is apparently too wise a prohibition to suit the wishes of all. For years agitation has been continued for State aid in highway improvement. This agitation, holding out alluring promises to the taxpayers of fine roads throughout the rural districts of the State, built at low cost to the benefited taxpayers, resulted in the adoption by the Legislature elected in 1902, and by the Legislature elected in 1904, of the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State, designed to repeal, for the benefit of the highway improvement cause, the closing sentence of Section 4 of Article VII. of that instruument:

" A debt or debts of the State may be authorized law for the improvement of highways. Such alghways shall be determined under general laws, which shall also provide for the equitable apporseament thereof among the countles. The agate of the debts authorized by this section gregate of the debts authorized by this section sage. The payment of the annual interest on mech debt and the creation of a sinking fund of at teast 2 per centum per annum to discharge the ment at maturity shall be provided by general whose force and effect shall not be dimin. tehed during the existence of any debt created The Legislature may, by general we, require the county or town or both to pay to sing fund the proportionate part of the of any such highway within the boundaries seh county or town, and the proportionate art of the interest thereon, but no county shall at any time for any highway be required to pay nors than thirty-five-hundredths of the cost of such highway, and no town more than fifteenpection of this article shall apply to debts for the overment of highways hereby authorized."

This proposed amendment to the Contitution, which excepts a highway debt of \$50,000,000 from the operation of the safeguards thrown around all other debts, is to be submitted to the people for their action at the general election Nov. 7, with six other proposed amendments, making seven propositions on which the electors must vote "Yes" or No." On the official ballot the question to be answered will appear thus:

"Shall the proposed amendment to Article VII. of the Constitution, relating to improvement of ways, be approved?"

In that form the voters must answer guestion involving the broposed tion involving the creation of a while they are answering it six other important and far reaching amendments proposed to the Constitution will be demanding their attention.

Why has this course been adopted with regard to this debt? Why has not the Legislature sent it over the path that the canal improvement law followed to enectment? For what reason was it thought necessary to obliterate an admirable provision of the Constitution to bring this project before the people? Did its promoters think that standing alone, with no other issues to divide the voters' attention, this plan would have been defeated at the polls? Did they fear the verdict of the people on the plain, straight question?

This proposed amendment would allow the Legislature to pass a law authorizing a debt of \$50,000,000, and that law would become effective immediately upon its approval by the Governor, and without the approval or action of the voters. Regardless of the object which is sought to be obtained, this departure from the practise prescribed in the Constitution would be unwise and unjustifiable.

The Taft Party at the "Bull Fight." There is a good laugh coming to that comparatively small number of Americans who have witnessed a Moro bull fight when they read criticisms of Secretary TAFT and his party for their recent "acquiescence in the cruel Spanish sport of bull fighting, which they condoned by attendance."

In the Moro bull fight like that which the Taft expedition "condoned" there is neither bull ring, espada, picador, banderillero nor bull. The bull ring is the open field, which is the scene of a flesta. The spectators, hosts and guests, move about as do our own people on a town common on the Fourth of July. The bulls are the ungainly, unwieldy, torpid carabao used for drawing the native carts and plows. A traveler has called them "huge hogs with horns." Their appearance is familiar to all in the pictures of Filipino life. For the "bull fight" two of these beasts

are led into the field among the people, who naturally clear a small space around them. At an extensive flosta there may be half a dozen such bull rings on the field at the same time. Led by their barefooted and turbaned attendants, the combatants are brought head to head. In one hand the "matador" holds a leading rope. The other hand holds the beast's tail. With shouls and kicks and tail twisting, the gaudy and courageous "matadors" seek to inspire the stupid brutes with enough aggressive energy to induce them to butt their heads together, to clash horns a little, or perhaps to make a cumbrous effort to hook the opponent. In about 99 per cent. of these encounters there is rather less excitement than there would be in a contest between a couple of mud turtles. Once in a while one of these vicious and bloodthirsty monsters, goaded to irritation by having his head pushed

his opponent out of the way. It is not a highly edifying spectacle but that is the kind of bull fight that Secretary TAFT and his party saw. The danger to bulls, "matadors" and spectators is a little less than that attending a pillow fight by children, and there is no possible comparison in either the fun or the excitement accompanying the respective encounters.

against the head of another "bull" of

equal ferocity, will endeavor to force

"Jews and Guineas."

A correspondent has written to us expressing somewhat humorous dissatisfaction with a reply which we made recently to a Long Island friend's demand for the deportation of "all Jews and Guineas." He thinks that we ought to have gone further and been sharper in rebuke and contempt. Omitting those references, critical and complimentary. his letter reads thus:

" TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE STO f Aug. 13 appeared an editorial bearing the title 'A Specimen of Many Protests.' The protest was a brief, flery outburst of Mr. VAN DERWENT of Jamaica, who urged the deportation of 'all Anarchists and scum,' and, in addition, of 'all Jows and only 'decent additions to this commonwealth.' He cried that 'this is no country for riotous strikers bummers and loafers.'

"Your editorial, taking up Mr. VAN DERWENT'S letter, asked 'Who are "soum"?' This you answered in a few brief lines. Quite sufficient. VAN DERWENT ought to know what 'scum' is. 'An archists,' too, were quickly disposed of. But as to ' Jews and Guineas ' you were silent.

"We all agree that 'this is no country for riotous strikers, bummers and loafers.' No country is. "But we have yet to learn of a strong sentiment is

favor of exclusion on grounds of religious condition and on grounds of geographical nativity. "One of the most unpleasant members of our through some heaven sent talent, sees in himself and in those who constitute his immediate environment a kind of 'super-men,' completely overshadowing the unlucky and ill fated persons who were improvident enough to be born outside of the United States. There are some rabid individuals among us who favor a policy of complete and absolute exclusion. 'Let nobody enter.' they say, 'this country is for Americans only.' And that anybody who has lived here long enough to learn the English language, be admitted to citizenship, wear certain conventional garments and labor or do business in the fashion of our system becomes, as a matter of course, an American.

estry through more than three generations born in this country is decidedly small.

" Man's nativity is a circumstance of accident his religion is usually accidental, except in certain refreshing cases where men are mentally strong enough to form their own beliefs or to discard those inculcated in their early adolescence.

"There should be a strict regulation of immi gration, but at the same time discrimination hould be founded upon justice and logic. 'Jews and Guineas' should not be excluded if they offend no further than by merely being 'Jews and Guineas.' S. JOHN BLOCK."

Mr. BLOCK's assertion that we have very few real Americans in our heterogeneous population" to boast themselves as "super-men" is strictly in accordance with the facts, more particularly as concerns this town of New York, the greatest of American cities and in the world only exceeded by London in

population and wealth. Of the inhabitants of New York in | before? At any rate, we can't meet him

whites of native parentage; of Man-hattan borough only about a sixth. In this small percentage of people of native birth, moreover, were included the grandchildren of foreigners. If you carried the ancestry even only one generation further back you would find that the "real Americans" in New York are not a tenth, probably not more than a twentieth, part of the inhabitants. Since 1900 this percentage too, has been been diminishing steadily, for during that period has taken place the greatest immigration in our history. and of this alien flood a very large part has remained in New York.

The "real American" element in New York must be fifth numerically in the distribution of the races in the population. Of Germans, Irish and Jews the number of each race is about the same, or about 800,000, with the Jews gaining by a far larger present immigration. The Italians must now be toward half a million, and they also are increasing rapidly. The "real Americans" might be estimated as about half as many as the Italians.

How have the order and moral condition of the town been affected by this introduction of so great a preponderance of the foreign elements? Before the time of the famous Know Nothing agitation New York was relatively a far more disorderly community than it is now. Riots were frequent. Elections were notoriously vitiated by frauds. Political animosities entered into private life and destroyed friendships. The housing of the poorer part of the population was wretched and disgraceful. CHARLES DICKENS described the old Five Points of about the middle of the last century-at the meeting place of Baxter, Worth and Park streets—as in respect of filth and wretchedness comparable only with the very worst quarters in any city of the world. Now that dis-trict has been transformed so that its past evil fame is scarcely conceivable by the later generation.

New York, too, was a very provincial town in 1850, and relatively to the present of little wealth and luxury. Its steady material advancement has been coincident with the great immigration of which the "native Americans" were so much afraid, and its political progress has been not less. The Tammany of that time and before was largely ruled by "native Americans," yet it was a rowdy sort of concern as compared with the Tammany under the rishman, Mr. MURPHY, of to-day.

We agree with Mr. BLOCK, therefore that the "super-men," as he call; the pretension of the "native Americans," needed improvement and were improved by the introduction of the foreign elements added to this town and this Union n the last sixty years. It may even be questioned if the best immigration to America did not come over during that period. "Jews and Guineas" How about the convicts and the "redemptioners" transported to the American Colonies in the early period?

It is a favorite complaint with certain superficial observers that the quality of the immigrants coming over now is much poorer than that of those of the past from northern Europe. Fifty or sixty years ago the same sort of philosophers were groaning over the current deterioration of the supply. As to religion, there was far more alarm than there is now. Horrible visions of Papal domination and of the revival of the Inquisition here in America disturbed the slumbers of Know Nothings

It is a question with some ethnological students if the "native Americans" by themselves would not have become rather savage and bloodthirsty race if this great alien flood had not happily poured in. Native American lynchings at the South certainly suggest Comanche Indian ferocity, and the police experts say that the native American rioter, the "Plug Ugly," is the most brutal of all. The aliens have helped to civilize our spirit and broaden our view. They have made us less provincial. They have given us the strength with which we have builded up our material prosperity and become a great Power in the world.

An Old Favorite and a New Economist.

Stung by the example of the Greater New York's Greater TIM SULLIVAN, the Hon. HINKY DINK of Chicago has gone abroad strange countries for to see. He has been studying foreign politics and institutions at close range. The general conclusions which he has formed he has put into golden sentences:

" Me for little old Chicago."

"The Europeans are a bunch of has beens." Mr. DINK's judgment and criticism of artistic matter are scarcely less terse and altogether as refreshing. He praises the "uniform sky line" of Berlin, where skyscrapers don't go." In his deliberate and authoritative opinion, "it's a cinch that Berlin is the finest city in Europe." Kings, Kaisers and Queens have respected his incognito-he is traveling as "Mr. KENNA"-consequently they have not been allowed to meet him; but "he has seen about a million of their statues, which are thicker here in Europe than Democrats in the First Ward."

Mr. DINK is "for municipal ownership all right," but, says he:

" I studied municipal ownership in Glasgow for two solid days. I talked with motormen and conductors and went to the bottom of the thing. The system is profitable, but the wages are only a third of those paid in Chicago, the fares are higher and the service is rotten."

Mr. DINK makes a characteristically shrewd remark about the great expectations, now fading so rapidly, of the County Cook men in regard to municipal traction:

" Our people don't understand yet what is meant by municipal ownership. They simply think they are going to get something for nothing with trading stamps thrown in. Chicago is hardly ready to go up against it." Chicago seems in no immediate dan-

ger of "going up against it." Indeed, in the bright lexicon of Mayor DUNNE, "immediate" means in "the sweet by and by."

Have we not met the Hon. Roy O. WEST of the Chicago Board of Review 1900 only about one-fifth were native too often. He has a theory and prec-

of assessments that give him a high place among the original economic minds of the world and that may yet make him President of the United States. He is the father of a four-year-old boy and a four-months-old girl. His eco-

nomic discovery or law is this: "A citizen who is the father of a baby has palpart of his State, city, library, school and park taxes, and should be credited with it."

In practise this law is not applied to the large taxpayers. Their assessments are not reduced as their families increase. They can afford the luxuries and neces sities of life. But the small taxpayer with babies to keep or "burn," to him Mr. West and the tax reviewers are merci-

"The fatherly looking German got to Mr. WEST

ful. For instance:

" 'What's your salary?' asked WEST. " ' Eighteen hundred,' said the German. " 'How many bables have you? "

" ' Pour.' said the German with a smile. " 'That's all,' said Wser, dismissing him. Against the German's assessment of \$2,000 he

"The amooth shaved young man came next He went through the same questions, answering 1 8800 ' and ' two.' " You ought to be pensioned instead of taxed

said Wast, writing 'no assessment' on the young man's papers. Then came the shrewd looking middle aged man, who replied '\$3,000' and 'none. WHET wrote 'confirmed' after the assessment." The more babies, the less taxes. Show

your baby and get a tax receipt. Plead your babies in abatement of your assess-ment. The Hon. Roy O. West has hold of a mighty and far reaching principle. But why not change it from a virtually negative to a positive form? Why be content with rebates, especially now when that word is of odious connotation? Why not come out straight and square for a bounty on babies?

Philadelphia's Hint to New York.

From Philadelphia there came on Friday a woman to testify in a Manhattan Magistrate's court in behalf of her ephew, against whom a criminal charge had been brought. She gave her testimony properly. Then the Magistrate said: " I suppose you are over 16 years old."

The remark thus interjected by the Magistrate from his dignified position on the bench seemed to the witness irrelevant and immaterial. She, being a stranger, dared to say so. She answered the Magistrate thus:

" Yes, and I didn't come all the way from Phile delphia to be chaffed by you. Cut it out."

The Magistrate was tamed. He did not send this independent woman to jail for contempt, nor did the heavens fall to punish her. A hint from Philadelphia to New Yorkers who are accustomed to submit to the jocular or ironical efforts of the minor Judges without retort! Perhaps if the habit of insisting on their rights should spread among witnesses they might find a way to the protection that now is lacking in the courts.

The President's Wilkes-Barre Order.

In his enthusiasm for the preservation of the separate individualities of Col. WILEES and Col. BARRE, and his generous desire to gratify the wishes of the good people of the town sometimes styled Wilkesbarre and sometimes Wilkes-Barre, President ROOSEVELT has directed the Post Office Department to use henceforth the form Wilkes-Barre, and not Wilkesbarre.

Perhaps the President, before issuing his order to the Post Office Department, would have done well to consult Mr. HENRY GANNETT, the distinguished and erudite chairman of the Board on Geographic Names. This board was created by an Executive order of September 4, 1890, which is yet in force. We quote from the official text of the order organizing the board and defining its powers:

"That uniform usage in regard to geographic omenciature and orthography shall obtain throughout the Executive Departments of the Government, this board is constituted. To it shall be referred all unsettled questions concerning geographic names which arise in the Departments. and the decisions of the board are to be accepted as the standard authority in such matters."

The then unsettled question of Wilkesbarre or Wilkes-Barre went in regular course to the Board on Geographic Names. The decision of that board, final as to official usage in the Post Office and other Departments of the Government, is thus officially recorded:

"Wilkesbarre; city, Luzerne County, Pa. (Not

Who can doubt that Mr. ROOSEVELT was ignorant of the fact that he was not only exercising a function specially assigned to a commission of experts in geographic nomenclature, but also actually overruling their final and binding decision in this particular case?

The entire nation cherishes the respect-ful but ardent hope that its valued Chief Magistrate will consent to draw the line short of the airship.

One among the many reasons given by the Hon. GRORGE H. JONES of Norcross. Ga., for supporting the Hon. Hoke SMITH's candidacy for Governor is much more

" He has no ambition for the office, but is seeking to be elected in compliance with the almost uni-It may be asked by the cynical and un-

worthy why Mr. SMITH takes the trouble to make speeches in August, 1905, although 1908. Is it to be expected that "the universal wish of the people" will not be granted? Well, the truth is that the Georgia people don't know as yet their universal wish. Mr. SMITH has to go about and

Anxions Inquity for the Hon, Dink Botts. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUX—Sir: I see the bright light shed upon the editorial page of your newspaper frequently by the name Hoke Smith, set in small caps. Some years ago I used to see this name in your columns associated with that of one Dink Botts. Pray tell me what has become of Dink. Has be gone unto otherwhere and left Georgia ione and disconsolate, or is he still glorifying the andscape in Crackerdom?

ALAN MADDEK.

PIRERILL LANDING, Aug. 26. alone and dis

Heneful View of Government Ownership From the Washington Star.
"What do you think of Government ownership!"
"It is a great idea." answered Senator Sorghum.

"I don't see how all that property could be sold to the Government without some influential people securing big commissions." Natural Misunderstanding. Mrs. Van Skinnedect.—But you told me you had no objection to travel.

Bridget—It niver intered me moind yes would want to thravel impresses but back to the ould

KANSAS PROHIBITION A SUCCESS. The Working of Over Twenty Years of

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir: The recent vote on prohibition at Asbury Park, in which the temperance ladies took so active in which the temperance successful, has brought the a part and were successful, has brought the question to the front again, and the old query question to the front blitten prohibit? When s heard, "Does prohibition prohibit?" When Bishop Potter made the broad statement that "prohibition is an impudent fraud and an impudent failure" he evidently spoke his piece without a full investigation.

If prohibition does not prohibit and n

ilquor is sold than in license States, why have not the voters of Maine and Kansas have not the voters of Maine and Kansas found out that fact and repealed the constitutional provisions that so misrepresent their sentiments, and why does the liquor satier constantly fight prohibition in those States? No one denies that some liquor is sold in violation of the prohibitory laws of those States, just as all other laws are violated. But after more than twenty years of actual test that the intelligent voters of those two States regist all efforts or attempts to wipe certainly means something. Let us ex-

The prohibition laws of Kansas allow the citizen to buy and drink and even to give liquor to his guests at his table. There is certainly no restraint of "personal liberty" in this. The fact that citizens of these States are thus allowed under the laws to ship in and use liquors hinders often the due enmt of prohibitory laws, yet this right

s not curtailed in the least. What do the official figures of the Government show as to the amount of liquor sold, for instance, in Kansas, as compared with that sold in adjoining States?

Two years ago the total amount of taxes paid the Government in Kansas for liquer icenses (including druggists' permits to sell on prescriptions) was \$115,483; in Nebrasks, adjoining on the north (with one-third less population), the amount was \$2,776,900; in Missouri, adjoining on the east, \$5,576,945. Of fermented liquors there were shipped into Kansas that year 9,022 barrels; into Nebraska 265,792, and into Missouri the same year 2,699,778 barrels. These official figures show that there is but one dollar paid to the national

2699.778 barrels. These official faures show that there is but one dollar paid to the sational Government for license tax in Kansas. to more than \$40 in Nebraska, and \$140 in Missouri, and the amount of liquors, as officially reported, shipped into each State bears about the same proportion.

The license law of Nebraska and Missouri are to-day, and have been each year, more often violated than are the prohibition laws of Kansas. Is not the same true of licensed New York, where the Bunday law and the selling to minors is openly set aside and continuously violated? The prohibitory laws of Kansas and Maine are doing just what the citizens of those States intended they should do, make the open saicon an sutlaw and the business of liquor selling disreputable and unpopular. Instead of having places alluring and attractive, where the boys are educated to become drunkards, it is a oriminal offense, and as a result such places do not exist under prohibition.

The creation of a healthy public sentiment in favor of temperance is shown in Kansas, where, in response to the wishes of the people, out of 781 papers and periodicals in the State only sixty-one papers would publish a whisky advertisement, though the very structive inducements for the advertisements were offered constantly. It is expected in most States that religious and temperance papers would exclude liquor advertisements, but it is shown that in no other State than Kansas is practically a united secular prose refusing this style of patronage.

Three-fourths of the counties of Kansas have no places where liquor is sold, and many thousands of Kansas boys and girls have nover seen a salcon or a drunken man. In a few of the large cities of Kansas the prohibitory law is openly violated, and in some of the smaller town joints are run a part of the time, but it is a decidedly unsafe business, for at any time on the complaint of a citizen the seller can be arrested and jalled under the law and his goods and fixtures confisced in the sold whisky, it is certainly discou where mild drinks are sold in the front department to women and children, and beer and whisky in the rear of the tavern to the men, with a semi-reading room attachment. Have not the people who have tested the workings of prohibition for a quarter of a century changed their laws when required by the test of experience, and where resubmission is so unpopular that even a test vote can ne longer be ordered by the Lagislature elected by the people, and where less than one-fourth the liquor is sold than in license States adjoining, been heard on this all important question?

They are being heard and heeded all over the nation.

the nation.

Missouri, where Governor Folk is new enforcing the Sunday closing law, has more than one-third of her counties under proibition. In the great State of Texas now over half

In the great State of Teves now over half of her counties have carried local option.
The treating custom is recomized as the direct cause of more than half of the syll of the drink habit; this has become almost entirely extinct in Kansas and Maine.

Kansas has fewer criminals confined in her penitentiary to-day than any other State of the same population, and more than half of, her county poorhouses are unoccupied; they can't afford to pay the expenses of a keeper, and nearly one-half of her poor farms are rented out to farmers or sold, and one-eighth of her one penitentiary at Leavenworth is rented to Okinhoma for her priseners. of. her county poorhouses are unoccupied; they can't afford to pay the expenses of a keeper, and nearly one-half of her poor farms are rented out to farmers or sold, and one-eighth of her one penitaritary at Leavanworth is rented to Oklahoma for her prisoners. Is the meantime Kansas expends more money each year per capita for education than any other State, and her rate of illiteracy is very low and improving every year.

Last week Governor Hoch of Kansas, in the desire of the particular than the part

HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 24.

Japan's Triumph and the Christian Religi To the Editor of the Sun—Sir: The last twenty-five years have seen a greater change in men's opinions upon religious questions than have all the centuries since the Reformation. This may not apply to the Roman Catholic and the Protestant Episcopal churches as it does to the other churches are the former ment of the courses. Protestant Episcopal churches as it does to the other churches, since the former speak, or assume to speak, with exceeding authority. Still, the mental revolt has spread very widely to those two churches. The Roman Church has virtually lost the Latin race. There are comparatively few Frenchmen, Spaniards or Italians among the educated classes who even profess to believe in her doctrines. As to the Protestant Episcopal Church, it may be said that it is now very largely a social affair, persons brought up claswhere naturally seeking its fold on account of the refined environment and of its tolerance in personal matters.

Men are no longer attending religious services as they once did, they are not observing Sunday as they once did. The churches are finding it more and more difficult to hold their people, and are obliged more and more to resort to adventitious alds: clubs, gilds, gymnasiums, and so on. More-

are obliged more and more to resort to adventitious aids: clubs, glids, gymnasiums, and so on. Moreover, we may be assured of this, that the war between Japan and Russia will have a very great effect in destroying men's belief in the exclusive nature and claims of the Christian religion. If the Japanese can excel the Russians, not only in actual fighting and all that appertains thereto, but also in what may be called "the amenities of war," the average man asks himself why missionaries ought not to be sent from Japan to Christian lands rather than the converge.

Z. NEW YORE, Aug. 22.

John Burroughs in the Country Calendar for John Burroughs in the Country Universal for September is described in his grape growing observable, with a double page illustration of his study. The homes of Secretary Bonaparte and Mr. Maxifeld Parrish are described. There are articles on field Parrish are described. There are articles on bee hunting, on mushrooms and toadshools, on various forms of adapted country houses, and on mosquito extermination among others, with the usual miscellary of useful information. Some of the photographs from nature are very humanital and the colored cover design to artists.

To run Entron of Tun Syn-Str: It is a rather strange coincidence that on the very morning that Tun Syn ambediace that Mr. Odall decisred for fusion, with municipal ownership as a campaign cry, there should come to my hands a copy of the platform of the Socialistic party, which made its nominations for a local ticket in Canton, Ohio, on the night of Aug. 18. Parinis me to quote the following from

ticket in Canton, Chio, on the night of Aug.

18. Perinit me to quote the following from
the Socialist platform:

First Municipal ownership and operation of
givest railways, was and electric lighting, power
and heating plants, telephones, and such other
accomplises as are used to tax the public for private
profit—such operation to be solely for the purpose
of decreasing the cost to the concumer, increasing
the efficiency of the service and bettering the condition of the employees.

The platform than in maddinising about

disten of the employees.

The platform then, in subdivisions that are marked "A," "B" and "C," &c., further provides for "the extension of public works to relieve the unemployed," and still another subdivision provides for "the building by the municipality of homes for working paople, to rest at cost." Then the Socialistic platform says:

We warm the workers against municipal ownership under aspitalistic parties. The income from public utilities would then go to pay interest on boads and to decrease taxation. The workers would still be exploited, whether under private ownership tweedledium or public would be a sep thrown to working men to keep them quiet; under the Socialist party municipal ownership would be a step toward Socialism.

In the resolutions adopted at the meetings of the executive bodies of the Republican city and county committee resterday, as published in this morning's SUN, it says:

It is worth while remembering that when It is worth while remembering that when
the Hon. Tim Sullivan returned from Europe, a few days ago, the Congressman
from the Bowery, probably after much
thought, anyway after a study of municipal ownership abroad, said that with
municipal ownership here in New York
Tammany Hall would remain in Sower for
a period of 150 years at least.

While in some instances it is made to appear that municipal ownership has been a
muccase, still I think you will agree with the

has been a failure.
In a conversation to-day with a prominent politician, a Republican at that, the latter unbesitatingly said that while the municipal ownership issue will probably be the one on which his party would have the calcium light turn most prominently, still at the same time, he said, these who would vote for municipal ownership would do so with little or no understanding of what it really means. He went even further and said that with that plank in the platform the fusion ticket would be elected this fall, but added: "Of course, while the Republican platform would promise municipal ownership, the promise could not be made good, and any one knows there is not a town or city in this country that would purchase and control all the public utility plants that Under these circumstances, and with all

the lessons that have gone before is it wise for a party to go before the voters at this time with the municipal ownership bugaboo? NEW YORK, Aug. 26. A SUN READER.

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

Argument That Christianity Condists to Believing Bather Than Domg Discussed. To fam Entren of Tan Sun—Sir: The reson Jesus insisted upon faith in Him as the only condition of salvation was because that slone would secure the promised Holy Spirit, without whom no man is a Christian.

ne man is a Christian.

The world will never know how much it has lost and suffered because men in all ages have instated upon substituting their cwn good works for faish in Christ, in consequence of which nearly all the so called great reforms of the past have been prempted by the spirit of error, which is always the attuating power in the world. Jesus said that the Comforter whom the Father would send in His name is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive.

If men would only believe in Jesus Christ and dep dirty works the Spirit of Truth would lead as as a nation and as individuals out of our sins not the liberty of the children of God. "We are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."

To rain EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Mr. Wiggins argues that Christianity consists in believing rather

than doing.
The teachings of Christ, however, show plainly The teachings of Christ, however, show plainly that no man can truly believe without making a consistent effort to set up to the belief. Surely Mr. Wiggins would not assert that the mere traditional acceptance of the facts of Bible history is the open sessme to heaven?

Though not a Catholic, the religion for me is that preached and lived by the late Cardinal Manning of London. What a life this would be if we all tried to come up to his ideals! The idea is concentrated in Christ's action with the woman and the Pharisses.

Only recently I heard of a scrupulously religious man who discharged a girl from his employ be-

Only recently I heard of a scrupulously religious man who discharged a girl from his employ because he learned that she had apoint Sunday at Coney laisand. In business this men is as notorietic for enfologing child isbor in his unhealthy factory, for his mean and underhand methods and long hours of overtime wrung from his effice staff, as he is famous on Sunday for his regular church attendance and plous professions in church circles. The girl whom he held to be unfitted for a place of trust because of her mode of spending one Sunday, has supported a semi-blind mether, and the cheerfulness and self-sacrifice with which she has given up all her ovenings after a hard day's work to keep the mother company has been the wonder and admiration of the neighborhood. Will profession or act be more acceptable to God in this case? BROOKLITH, Aug. 18.

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir: Whether

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir: Whether Christianity consists in "being and deing" or in "belleving" appears to me to be mostly a master of opinion as to what "belief" really means. Right bellet inspires right conduct. If the average Christian believed in his hours what he professes with his line as femily as he believed the test does not be the conduct. with his lips, as firmly as he believes that fire will burn, his conduct and his belief would no doubt be in perfect harmony.

be in perfect harmony.

The "belief" to which Jesus Christ refers in the texts quoted by Mr. Wiggins in his letter of Aug. 15 cannot be that of the ordinary orthodox, churchgoing Christian or clergyman, for in Mark gyl., 17-18, we read: "And these signs shall follow them that believe, " " they shall take up sarpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurs them." These are things which the said ordinary orthodox Christian is manifestly not able to do. to do. New York, Aug. 18.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: What shall Mr. To run Entron of The Sun—Sir: What shall Mr. Goldwin Smith give us in place of the supernatural which his papers in The Sun indirectly, if not directly, tend to destroy? "Thou shalt not kill," "Thou shalt not kill," "Thou shalt not commit adulier;" ac., will have lost their chameteristic guilt as soon as the old traditional supernatural measure of the morality of human actions shall have northed.

periahed.

Destroy the supernatural, and what alembie is left to test and prove the morality of human action? Now we know why theft is theft, murder murder, adultery adultery, because we possess a supernatural test or touchstone which catching the true or false ring of every human action. But in the new order of things, of which Mr. Gotdwin Smith is, at least suggestively, a presagnist, what right shall be left to man, nation or Church to use the words tables, adapterer, adulterer, seducer, mur-

have become a myth, what shall then be the test or touchistone to prove that this is good, that wicked; this praiseworthy, that punishable; this man noble, that man an influence scoundred!

The permanence of society, of governments and civilization demands an answer.

M. C. G.

CORORS, Aug. 20.

Piute fondied his three-headed dog.
"So convenient when my designer has three bests at once," he explained.
Herowith the cheek struck 10 and the pariet out-designessign

THE MEMORY OF JOSE MARTI. dent Palme of Oute has just signed the bill which will settle the last claims of the war veterans. Thus runs a cable item which has appeared in external papers of a recent

Keeping in mind the historical attachment Keeping in mind the historical attachment of Tun flux to the cause of Cuba, which fruit ful effection has permitted your paper to be a conneissour of that island's affairs ever since the infelicitous stroke of Narciso Lopez down to the time of the present un wise financial entanglements, and the manifold hazardous possibilities of the late empréciles, one

Let us begin from the initial point, which invites us to reflect on the propriety of the claims adjustment of the revolutionary heroes who in the hour of need gave a helping hand in order to break the yoke of their mother country. We recollect that during the propaginds carried on by José Marti, the great liberator, and the statements made at the time of the Cuban struggle by all their prominent leaders, the revolutionary literature ran imbued with this spirit. The triumph will be ours, as the salaried troops from Spain cannot cope with the disinterestedness and spartanism of our soldiers. We shall get the freedom for which so many worthy lives have been sacrificed in the past, as we do not need any commissariat nor paymasters to hand our brave and glorious fighters the vile money which they do not expect as remunication for the compliance of their patrictic duty and which they consider above all other obedience.

And now? Does it all conform with the altruistic declarations made by them during their active work, while they were endeavor-Let us begin from the initial point, which

other obedience.

And now? Does it all conform with the altruistic declarations made by them during their active work, while they were endeavoring to enlist the world's sympathies to their just cause of deliverance? Does it all agree with the unegotistic recitals of the old insurgents, who gave them assurances that sainshness and greediness did not enter into the bellicose enthusiasm of their fighting legions? Well and good that beneficent help be quickly tendered by a solvent Government to the invalid veteran, the deprived widow and the orphaned child, but this veteran's list of the Cuban army seems to have swelled up to enormous proportions, inconsistent with the early purposes. The strenucsity of the creditors and the readiness and willingness of the debtors do not keep pace with the financial capacity of Cuba, and it is high time for them to stop their headions practices in the misadministration of the commonwealth.

The able cammaign in which you have embarked against the actual raid and dilapidation of the Cuban treasury by the vandals of the Palma clique, and with no other aim than to gain adherents for the Presidential ambitions of the present ruler, deserves the sincere commendation of all honest men who want to see Marti's noble work crowned with evertasting success, and the United States Government free of a future problem which are pending of solution at the present member.

New York, Aug. 25.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.

A Roman Catholic Reply to Mr. Goldwin Smith.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Goldwin Smith is correct in his statement that I am "perfectly justified in saying that the motive of the massacre of St. Bartholo-mew was political rather than religious." He is incorrect in stating that "history will proof this statement that a "Te Deum was sung in St. Peter's, a triumphal medal

was sung in St. Peter's, a triumphal medal was struck, a triumphal oration was composed by the Papal orator," &c.

The Te Deum, the medal or the oration do not prove that Rome was associated with the massacre of St. Bartholomew. Mr. Goldwin Smith has failed to prove his thesis.

The facts are these: Gregory XIII. proceeded in procession not to St. Peter's, but to the Church of St. Louis in Rome, and rendered thanks to God for the deliverance of the King and his family. He proclaimed a jubilee, and had a medal struck. The famous Latinist, Mureto, pronounced an oration on the massacre in the presence of the Pope. The words of Gregory in a letter to the King in congratulation for his escape, as well as the words of Mureto, are merely expressions of thanks to God for the escape of the royal family from a Huguenot conspiracy.

of the royal family from a Huguenot conspiracy.

The words of Gregory and Mureto stand in contradiction to the pronouncement of Mr. Goldwin Smith "The habit of persecution was transmitted by the Church of the Middle Ages to Pretestantism" is a proposition that Mr. Goldwin Smith cannot prove. It is a gratuitous assertion that can be gratuitously defied.

He further states that this persecution of Catholics by Protestants "presently died out." History attests the contrary. History affords ample evidence that the persecution of Catholics inaugurated by Henry Vill., continued by James, Elizabeth and Cromwell, was carried on for more than 200 years. Its spirit was rife in colonial New England, its cowardly work of discrimination and gestrictions is active to-day, and has not died cut even in the home of Mr. Goldwin Smith—the hotbed of the A. P. A. and Orange organizations.

In the concluding paragraph of his lever Mr. Goldwin Smith asserts that he does not want to bandy accusations and reproaches," while in the next sentence, by sly innuendo, he bandles eight different "accusations and reproaches."
We have no objection to the publication of facts of Church history, but we do emphatically denounce misrepresentation of history, which has been for many years "a grand conspiracy against the truth."

NEW YORE, Aug. 25.

NEW YORE, Aug. 25.

The Downtown Hell of Nelse.

The Dewatewa Hell of Nelse.

To the Edward of The Sun—Sir: "Disgusted Haricanite" ought to try our part of the city. Where I live, on Sixth street, the cowbell carts appear on the street soon after 6 o'clock A. M., a mulaance created by the Board of Aldermen. Three thousand rig pediers use three bells each, size hot specified. Some are large enough for a country meeting house. We are never five minutes without the sound of cowbells in our ears.

The horn blowing scissors grinder is also on deck right after 6 o'clock A. M. Horn blowing is against the law, but one of our wise (?) Magistrates decided that only meant those who paid license fees, and a scissors grinder doesn't pay license. Then in the yard commences the clothesime nulannee, also at 6 o'clock A. M. or very little later. The hand organ man is on hand very early, too, and very late in the evening.

Now, what are our ordinances for? Last night a hand organ was playing at 11:30 o'clock. If you deubt my word, you can find out at the Progress

per salcon.
I doubt Hariem's ability to beat us for noise

From the London Dady Mass.

A well known Norfolk landowner makes the tatement that the brick bearing Nelson's initials

preserved under a glass case at Paston grammar school is not a reite of the great Admiral, but was the result of a schoolbey's "lark" about twenty-four years ago.
At that time Rider Haggard's father stated that Neison, while at the school, had carved his initials on one of the walls. As the boys could not find the brick bearing the initials, one of them conceived the brilliant idea of supplying the defect. which he promptly did, filling up the initials with moss and earth to give them a properly ancient

The Notfolk landowner declares that he saw the boy do is, that there are other eyewitnesses living, and that if he is challenged he will give their names.

Early Egyptians in France.

From the London Globe.

There has just been laid before the French Academy of Sciunces a well authenticated case of prehistoric Egyptian remains found among the prehistoric remains of ancient Gaul. The connection between Gaul and Egypt was established in this way: A card of cut flints of the Neolithic pethis way: A card of cut films of the Neolithic period was chicained from Egypt and a card of exactly similar shats found on Riou Island, nine miles from Marcetiles, was shown with them. At the spot on the island where these films were excavated there were found lying nearest the surface some Roman pattery; below that Greek pottery, with Ligurian and Egyptian still lower, and below these again masses of marine shells, pottery and films different from any ver found. The remains found different from any ver found. The remains found different from any yet found. The remains found go back for at least 5,000 years.

Complication. Subbubs-I couldn't for the life of me recall what

you wanted.

Mrs. Subbube—Of course not; I told you particularly not to forget there wasn't anything.

In Scribner's Monthly for September a first instal-ment of George Bancroft's diaries tells about his student days in Germany. Remarkable photo-graphs of Roman ruins in Tunisia accompany Mr. Emember's article, and Mr. Hornaday dead the animals' heres. Pour short stories and Mrs. Wharten's surial constitute the fiction, and there

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